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Box Patent Application
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

New U.S. Patent Application

Title: LOW-SMOKE SELF-EXTINGUISHING ELECTRICAL CABLE AND
FLAME-RETARDANT COMPOSITION USED THEREIN being a Continuation
of PCT International Application No. PCT/EP99/06910, filed on September 17,
1999

Inventors and Addresses:

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Sir:

We enclose the following papers for filing in the United States Patent and
Trademark Office under 35 U.S.C. 111(a) as a **Continuation** application of

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March 23, 2001

Page 2

PCT/EP99/06910, filed on September 17, 1999, which claimed priority of European Patent Application No. 98118194.4, filed on September 25, 1998 and US Provisional Application No. 60/102,926, filed on October 1, 1998.

1. Application - 32 pages, including 3 independent claims and 15 claims total (as amended).
2. Drawings - 1 sheet of drawings containing 1 figure
3. Preliminary Amendment.
4. Certified copy of European Patent Application No. 98118194.4, filed on September 25, 1998.
5. Information Disclosure Statement and Information Disclosure Citation, PTO 1449 with documents attached.
6. The filing fee is calculated as follows:

| | | | | | | |
|--|------------------|---|-------|--------------|----------------------------------|-----------|
| Basic Application Filing Fee | | | | | \$710 | \$ 710.00 |
| | Number of Claims | | Basic | Extra Claims | | |
| Total Claims | 15 | - | 20 | 0 | x \$18 | |
| Independent Claims | 3 | - | 3 | 0 | x \$80 | |
| [] Presentation of Multiple Dep. Claims | | | | | +\$270 | |
| | | | | | Subtotal | \$ 710.00 |
| | | | | | Reduction by 1/2 if small entity | - |
| | | | | | TOTAL APPLICATION FILING FEE | \$ 710.00 |

7. A check for \$710.00 is enclosed for filing fee.
8. Cover page of WIPO Publication No. WO 00/19452 of International Application No. PCT/EP99/06910 with English-language abstract.

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March 23, 2001

Page 3

This application is being filed under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(f). Applicants await notification from the Patent and Trademark Office of the time set for filing the Declaration.

Applicants claim the right to priority based on European Patent Application No. 98118194.4, filed on September 25, 1998 and the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/102,926, filed on October 1, 1998.

Please address all correspondence with respect to this application to:

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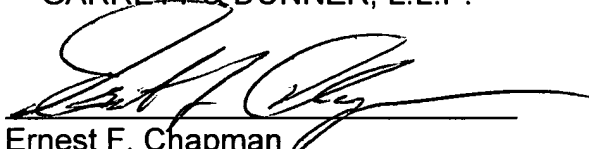
Please accord this application a serial number and filing date.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional filing fees due and any other fees due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or § 1.17 during the pendency of this application to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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EFC/FPD/sci
Enclosures

T E L E C O M M U N I C A T I O N S

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| | | | (43) International Publication Date: 6 April 2000 (06.04.00) |
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| (54) Title: LOW-SMOKE SELF-EXTINGUISHING ELECTRICAL CABLE AND FLAME-RETARDANT COMPOSITION USED THEREIN | | | |

(57) Abstract

Self-extinguishing cable coated with a flame-retardant composition comprising: (a) an ethylene homopolymer or copolymer having a density of from 0.905 to 0.970 g/cm³, and being selected from: ethylene homopolymers; copolymers of ethylene with an alpha-olefin; copolymers of ethylene with an ethylenically unsaturated ester; or mixtures thereof; (b) a copolymer of ethylene with at least one alpha-olefin, and optionally with a diene, said copolymer (b) having a density of from 0.860 to 0.904 g/cm³, and being characterized by a composition distribution index greater than 45 %; (c) natural magnesium hydroxide in an amount such as to impart flame-retardant properties; wherein at least one of the polymeric components (a) and (b) contains hydrolyzable organic silane groups grafted onto the polymer chain. The silane groups are preferably introduced during compounding of the flame-retardant composition by adding to the polymer mixture a suitable silane compound and a radical initiator.

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